

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 02416 131440Z  
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 MCT-01 INR-10 PA-01 SSM-03  
/031 W

-----089823 132128Z /64

R 131352Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5415

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 2416

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC  
SUBJECT: THREAT ASSESSMENT OF SECURITY SITUATION - TIME AFRICA/  
MID EAST NEWSTOUR

REF: STATE 052278

1. GOJ HAS TIGHT CONTROL OVER INTERNAL POLITICS AND  
KEEPS VERY CLOSE AND EFFECTIVE WATCH ON TERRORIST AND  
DISSIDENT ACTIVITIES.

2. OF THE RADICAL PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS, THE POPULAR  
FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PFLP), THE FATAH  
DISSIDENT GROUP KNOWN AS "BLACK JUNE" AND THE ARAB  
LIBERATION FRONT (ALF) ARE THE GROUPS MOST LIKELY TO  
ATTEMPT TO MOUNT TERRORISTS OPERATIONS IN JORDAN. THE  
JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE THE  
ACTIVITIES OF THESE GROUPS IN JORDAN WELL COVERED.  
THERE IS NO INFORMATION THAT ANY OF THESE GROUPS HAVE  
SPECIFICALLY TARGETED AMERICAN PERSONNEL OR INTERESTS IN  
JORDAN.

3. SINCE 1972, AMMAN HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF ONLY ONE  
TERRORIST INCIDENT THAT BEING THE NOVEMBER 1976 ATTACK  
ON THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL. IT IS NOTED THAT THE  
TIME NEWSTOUR DELEGATION WILL RESIDE AT THIS HOTEL DURING  
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THEIR STAY IN JORDAN. SUCH A LARGE GROUP OF PROMINENT  
UNITED STATES BUSINESSMEN GATHERED IN ONE LOCATION COULD  
CERTAINLY TEMPT A TERRORIST GROUP TO MOUNT AN OPERATION.  
HOWEVER, THE FACT THAT JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES ARE VERY AWARE  
OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN ATTEMPT, NORMALLY TIGHT  
SECURITY CONTROLS WOULD BE AUGMENTED BY FURTHER SECURITY  
MEASURES. BEARING THIS IN MIND, IT IS POSSIBLE BUT VERY

UNLIKELY THAT TIME NEWSTOUR WOULD ENCOUNTER ANY TERRORIST  
THREAT WHILE IN JORDAN.

4. SECURITY CONTROLS AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL DURING  
THE DELEGATION'S STAY WILL BE EXTREMELY TIGHT. ALL ROOMS  
WILL BE SEARCHED AND ALL GUESTS SCRUTINIZED. 24-HOUR POLICE  
COVERAGE WOULD BE IN EFFECT AT THE HOTEL. IT WILL BE  
REQUESTED THAT ALL VEHICULAR MOVES BE ACCOMPANIED BY POLICE  
ESCORT. GOJ SECURITY HAS CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN

ARRANGING SECURITY FOR VIP TOURS OF REFUGEE CAMPS, WHICH WE  
NOTE IS ON TIMEINC TOUR.

5. WE SEE NOTHING RESULTING FROM THE MARCH 11 TERRORIST ATTACK  
WITHIN ISRAEL THAT WOULD CHANGE THE ABOVE SECURITY  
ASSESSMENT FOR JORDAN.  
PICKERING

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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